

CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: caf6f02c-29b0-4526-b82c-a2c5579e3b58

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1900598.012

Medium: Video File

Creator: Not stated

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: Unidentified language

Applicant: Commissioner of Police

Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 18 years.
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Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: None

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 19 February 2020

Date of direction to issue a label: No direction to issue a label has been issued

Date of notice of decision: 19 February 2020

	Components	Running time
Feature(s):	caf6f02c-29b0-4526-b82c-a2c5579e3b58	1:02
Total running time:		1:02

Summary of reasons for decision:

‘caf6f02c-29b0-4526-b82c-a2c5579e3b58’ is an amateur video that depicts two dogs attacking a helpless man. The concerned and panicked voices of unseen witnesses adds to the distressing tone of the video. The man appears traumatised and seriously injured when the dogs finally let go of him. The video is likely to greatly shock and disturb children and teenagers in particular. The distribution of footage like this for no apparent legitimate purpose is also likely to have an eventual effect of inuring younger viewers who are still developing emotionally and cognitively, to other real-life suffering more generally. While many adults are also likely to be disturbed by the footage, it would not be reasonable to classify the publication as objectionable given the observational nature of the

recording. Adults are also expected to have the maturity and experience to appropriately contextualise potentially distressing material. The Classification Office has considered the effects of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 on the application of all the classification criteria. A restriction on the publication's availability to adults places a limit on the right to freedom of expression, but this is a reasonable and justifiable limitation given the risk of injury to the public good.